**Diversification programme by HZL**

4170. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindusan Zinc Ltd. (HZL) has a proposal to diversify its activities;

(b) it so, the fund earmarked for implementing diversification programme; and

(c) the details of the diversification programme drawn up by HZL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) to (c) Hindustan Zinc Ltd , (HZL) has the following diversification plans:—

(i) Exploration and mining of gold deposit at Jagpura, Banswara District, in Rajasthan. The Company has initially taken up exploratory drilling to be completed by 1995-96 at an estimated cost of Rs 183 lakhs.

(ii) HZL has proposed to enter into a Joint Venture with Bureau of Geology and Mining (BRGM), France and Vietnam Rare and Precious Minerals Corporation, Vietnam, to exploit gold prospects in Pac Lang area of Vietnam. HZL's share of investment in exploration and feasibility phases is estimated at US $ 1.72 million.

**Opening of Regional Office of IBM in Orissa**

4171. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of regional offices of the Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) opened by Government at different places;

(b) whether Government have a proposal to open one branch of IBM in Orissa:

(c) if so, the place where the new Regional Office is going to be located: and

(d) the steps taken in the opening of Regional Offices of IBM?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) The Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) has eleven regional offices at Ajmer, Banagalore, Calcutta, Dehradun; Margao (Goa); Hyderabad; Jabalpur, Madras, Nagpur; Ranchi; Udaipur and one sub-regional at Nelore.

(b) to (d) Due to financial constraints, the Government is not in a position to set up any Regional Office of IBM in Orissa, at present.

**Joint venture with Bulgaria**

4172. M'SS SAROJ KHAPARDE : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bulgaria has recently shown interest to have joint ventures in the mining sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Bulgaria has invited an Indian delegation of socialists from the mining sector to visit that country to identity areas of cooperation including establishment of Joint ventures between the two countries. The Government has accepted the invitation.

**गुजरात में कच्छ जिले में उपलब्ध खनिज**

4173. श्री राघवजी : क्या खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि गुजरात राज्य के कच्छ जिले में कुछ खनिज प्रचुर मात्रा में उपलब्ध

(ख) यदि हां, तो उनके नाम क्या-क्या हैं ;

(ग) क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा खनिजों के उत्खनन के लिये कोई योजना बनाई गई है ; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है और यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

**खान मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री बलराम सिंह यादव)** : (क) जी, हां ।

(ख) पाए गए खनिज बाक्साइट, बाक्साइट, डेन्टोनाइट, चीनी मिट्टी, फायरक्ले, जिप्सम, चूनापत्थर, ओकर, क्वार्टर्ज, सिलिकासैंड और लिग्नाइट हैं ।

(ग) और (घ) खनिजों के खनन के लिए प्रौद्योगिकी आकर्षित करने तथा निवेश प्रोत्साहित करने के लिए सरकार ने राष्ट्रीय खनिज नीति 1993 घोषित की है और खान और खनिज (विनियमन और विकास) अधिनियम, 1957 में संशोधन किये हैं । खनन क्षेत्र के विकास को सुगम बनाने के लिए नियमों और पद्धतियों को और सरल बनाया गया है ।

**Accident in Zinc-mine of Rajpura Dariba in Rajasthan**

4174. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:

Will the Minister of Mines be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 598 given in the Rajya Sabha on 9th December, 1994 and state:

(a) the details of the accident indicating the cause and the number of miners killed and injured and the compensation paid to the victims or their families; and

(b) whether an inquiry has since been made into the causes of the accident, if so, how far the accident was attributable to lack of safety systems?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) Thirteen workers died when a cemented fill plug & barricade construction to retain fill (classified tailings) in the stope (voids created as a result of mining operations) failed resulting into an onrush of fill material alongwith water into the workings below 212 meter level of the Rajpura Dariba Mines on 28th August, 1994.

The bereaved families have been granted compensation as follows:

(i) Rs. 10,000 paid as immediate financial assistance to families of deceased miners.

(ii) Rs. 5,000/- for funeral expenses paid for every deceased miner.

(iii) Compensation payable as per Workmen's Compensation Act have been deposited with Workmen's Compensation Commissioner.

(iv) In addition to (iii) above, Adhoc Compensaton has also been paid at the following rate:

(1) Rs. 50,000 for each deceased.

(2) Rs. 54,000/- for deceased employee of HZL under Death Benefit Scheme as per long-term Agreement with Hindustan Zinc Workers' Federation.

(3) Rs. 30,000/- for each deceased employee of Bharat Gold Mines Limited (in lieu of Death Benefit Scheme).

(v) One dependent of each employee offered employment or pension to the widow of deceased in lieu thereof at the rate of Rs 3000 per month.

(b) An enquiry into the causes of the accident was made by Directorate General of Mines Safety under Ministry of Labour. According to the Report of Enquiry, the accident occured due to failure in monitoring of:—